

Wayne Allard

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SENATOR ALLARD SECURES ALAMOSA WATER SYSTEM FUNDING IN FINAL INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) announced that he has secured \$650,000 in State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG) funding for the City of Alamosa's water treatment system in the final version of the 2006 Interior Appropriations bill, which was approved by the Senate on Friday. The House of Representatives approved the legislation Thursday night; the bill will now go to the White House for the President's signature.

"After more than a year's hard work, this funding is finally a done deal," said Senator Allard. "The City of Alamosa, like so many communities across the state, has to shoulder a huge financial burden as it tries to comply with stringent new water quality standards that have recently been imposed by the EPA. This federal funding will reduce some of that burden."

"As a member of the conference committee that worked to iron out the differences between the House and Senate versions of the Interior Appropriations bill, I was in a position to ensure that this funding for Alamosa stayed in the final version of the legislation," added Senator Allard.

The EPA recently lowered its acceptable contaminant levels for arsenic from 50 micrograms per liter to 10 micrograms per liter, and has set a deadline for compliance of January 2006. This change has forced the City of Alamosa to make expensive upgrades to its drinking water system to comply with the new rule.

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